

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 03737 171858Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-05

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1951

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

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AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

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EO 11652: N/A

SUBJ: SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS ADDRESSED DANISH NORTH
ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION

SUMMARY: IN BRIEF LUNCHEON SPEECH DEC. 16 SECRETARY
GENERAL LUNS ADDRESSED SMALL GROUP OF DANISH NATO
LEADERS, INCLUDING FONMIN K.B. ANDERSEN AND NATO CHIEFS
OF MISSION. HE ANALYZED ROLE OF NATO IN PRESENT EAST/WEST
CONTEXT AND SPOKE GLOWINGLY OF US SUPPORT FOR EUROPE OVER
PAST 25 YEARS. HE PARTICULARLY PRAISED SECRETARY'S PRE-
SENTATION AT LAST WEEK'S MINISTERIAL AND SPOKE OPTIMISTICALLY
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OF NATO'S FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS CAME TO COPENHAGEN TO ATTEND 25TH ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON OF FORMATION OF DANISH NORTH ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION. LUNCHEON WAS ATTENDED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF DANISH NATO ASSOCIATION, FONMIN ANDERSEN, MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR BORCH AND NATO CHIEFS OF MISSION.

2. LUNS BEGAN BY COMPARING SITUATIONS IN 1952 AND PRESENT. TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO, HE SAID, US WAS SOLE NUCLEAR POWER. UNLIKE EMPIRES OF OLD -- ROMANS, CHARLEMAGNE, LOUIS XIV, AND PAST DANISH KINGDOMS -- US SHOWED NO DESIRE TO ABUSE POWER BUT INSTEAD SOUGHT TO PROMOTE STRENGTH AND WELFARE OF WESTERN EUROPE. THIS RESULTED IN MARSHALL PLAN AND EVENTUAL MOVES TOWARD EUROPEAN UNITY WHICH, LUNS SAID, US OFTEN SUPPORTED TO DETRIMENT OF NARROWER UINTERESTS. IN ADDITION, 25 YEARS AGO RAW MATERIAL RESOURCES, PARTICULARLY PETROLEUM, WERE STILL IN WESTERN HANDS AND BREAK-UP OF COLONIAL EMPIRES HAD NOT YET TAKEN PLACE. HOWEVER, ONE FACT WHICH HAD NOT CHANGED WAS CONTINUED SOVIEIT PRESSURE AT ALL WEAK POINT AROUND THE GLOBE.

3. LUNS THEN ADDRESSED QUESTION OF PRESENT POLITICAL BALANCE IN EUROPE. HE MENTIONED AS POSITIVE FACTORS FRANCO-GERMAN REAPPROACHMENT, AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A POLITICAL SENSE OF UNITY WITHIN WESTERN EUROPE. HE SPOKE WITH PARTICULAR APPRECIATION OF THE PRESENT US AND FRG ASSISTANCE TO NATO DEFENSE AND REFERRED OBLIQUELY TO "THE SPECIAL FRENCH CONTRIBUTION" TO THE ALLIANCE. HE FELT THAT THE ALLIANCE WAS STRONG ENOUGH TO BE ABLE TO CONTAIN DISPUTES AMONG ITS MEMBERS, MENTIONING SPECIFICALLY THE GREEK-TURKISH AND ICELANDIC-UK PROBLEMS.

4. LUNS HAILED "SECRETARY KISSINGER'S BRILLIANT PRESENTATION ON SALT", NOTING THAT MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE NEED HAVE NO FEAR THAT ANY US-SOVIET BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WOULD BE WORKED OUT WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE. LUNS WENT ON TO EMPHASIZE THAT A POLICY OF DETENTE COULD ONLY BE CARRIED OUT FROM A POSITION OF STRENGTH, OBSERVING THAT THE NATO MEMBERS AT THE RECENT MEETING HAD BEEN IN TOTAL AGREEMENT ON THIS POINT.

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5. LUNS HAD PARTICULARLY PRAISE FOR DENMARK'S DEFENSE AGREEMENT. HE SAID THE DANES WERE TO BE COMMENDED FOR STICKING STRICTLY TO WHAT THEY HAD PROMISED TO DO REGARDING TH STRENGTHENING OF THEIR DEFENSE FORCES. HE CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS ON AN OPTIMISTIC NOTE, STRESSING ONCE AGAIN THAT THE POWER OF THE ALLIANCE LAY IN ITS CLOSE COEHSION.
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